

Message Text

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66

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AGR-20 DOTE-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11

INR-10 LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 PA-03 PRS-01

USIA-15 SS-15 NSC-10 RSR-01 /120 W

----- 102665

R 312045Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1450

UNCLAS OTTAWA 1781

PASS DEPT OF AGRICULTURE, DOT AND ICC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, CA

SUBJECT: ROTATING RAIL STRIKES UNDERWAY

REF: OTTAWA 1580

1. THE NON- OPERATING UNIONS COMMENCED LAST WEEK THEIR THREATENED SERIES OF ROTATING STRIKES AGAINST NATION'S RAIL LINES, EACH STRIKE LASTING ABOUT 48 HOURS. FIRST REGION HIT WAS ONTARIO, FOLLOWED BY SECOND STRIKE IN BRITISH COLUMBIA, ALBERTA, YUKON AND NORTHWEST TERRITORIES. THIRD BEGAN THIS MORNING IN QUEBEC. NATIONAL PASSENGER TRAIN SERVICE HAS BEEN SUSPENDED BY BOTH RAILROADS UNTIL TOTAL SYSTEM CAN FUNCTION AGAIN WITHOUT INTERRUPTION. COMMUTER TRAINS AND FREIGHTS SHUT DOWN IN EACH REGION AND MOST TELEGRAPH SERVICES (SUPPLIED BY RAILROADS) LIKEWISE INTERRUPTED. TRUCKING SERVICES OPERATED BY RAILROADS DISRUPTED.

2. IMPACT OF STRIKE SERIES DIFFICULT TO ASSESS. MUCH WILL DEPEND ON ITS DURATION. PRESS REPORTS INDICATE VARIOUS SHIPPERS ATTEMPTING DIVERT MOVEMENTS, ESPECIALLY OF PERISHABLE FOODSTUFFS, TO TRUCKS. THERE IS PROBABLY A QUESTION OF ABILITY OF TRUCK TRANSPORT SYSTEM
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ADEQUATELY TO RESPOND TO DEMANDS WITHOUT BREAKING LOGISTICS

PIPELINES ON WHICH MUCH OF THE ECONOMY DEPENDS.

3. GOC HAS NOT YET GIVEN ANY PUBLIC
INDICATION OF HOW SERIOUSLY IT REGARDS THE SITUATION.
IF SUFFICIENTLY SERIOUS GOC MIGHT RECALL PARLIAMENT
TO PASS RETURN-TO-WORK LEGISLATION. NO REPORTS AVAILABLE
OF TALKS BETWEEN MANAGEMENT AND UNIONS TO END IMPASSE.
SCHMIDT

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LABOR STRIKES, RAIL TRANSPORTATION
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Draft Date: 31 JUL 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973OTTAWA01781
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Review Comment: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

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